

NAEP Questions Tool

Quick Reference

April 2005



The NAEP Questions Tool

The **NAEP Questions Tool** provides educators, researchers, parents, and students with access to released questions from NAEP assessments in nearly all subject areas, dating from 1990.

The questions are presented as

- examples of what NAEP asks students in grades 4, 8, and 12;
- examples of questions that probe students' knowledge of specific content areas; and
- a way to examine student performance on a specific question by race/ethnicity, gender, and other student groupings.

NAEP has released over 1,000 questions from past assessments to the public, and will continue to release more after each assessment.

How to Access

The direct URL to NAEP Questions is

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrls>

or click **NAEP Questions** on the Nation's Report Card home page.

To Start

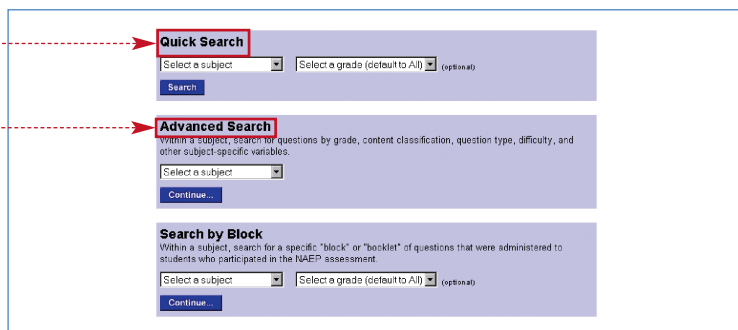
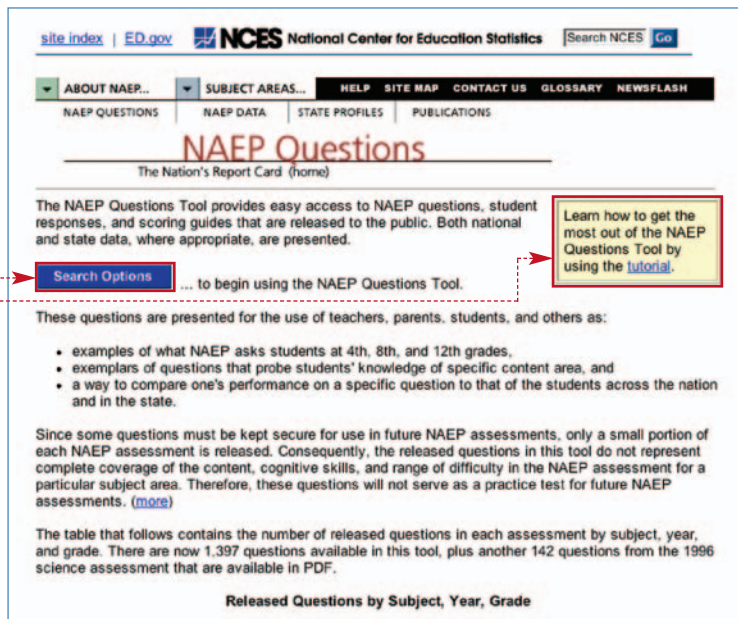
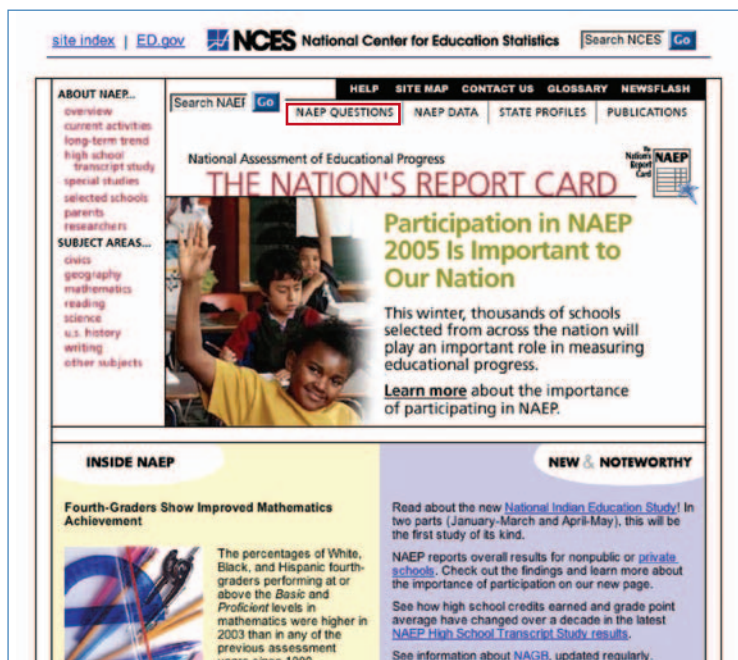
1. Click **Search Options** to begin.
2. Note that there is an online tutorial, and **Tool Help** is available from all pages of the **NAEP Questions Tool**.

Note that **CONTACT US** is in the black band at the top of every NAEP page. Please use it to ask questions about NAEP that are not answered on this website, or to send us comments.

Search Options

There are three ways to search for a released NAEP question. Most often, you'll be using **Quick Search** or **Advanced Search**.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/itmrls>



Quick Search

If you use **Quick Search**, you will select a subject and, optionally, a grade. Click **Search** to see the list of questions matching your search criteria.

Advanced Search Options

Advanced Search lets you narrow the search criteria. First, select a subject, then click **Continue** and select the other variables.

Question Difficulty is categorized as easy, medium, or hard. For multiple-choice questions and questions that are either right or wrong (i.e., dichotomously scored),

- **easy** questions are those that over 60 percent of the students answer correctly;
- **medium** questions are those that 40 to 60 percent of students answer correctly; and
- **hard** questions are those that fewer than 40 percent of students can answer correctly.

For constructed-response questions, **Question Difficulty** is also categorized as easy, medium, or hard, and is determined after weights are assigned to each of the score categories.

Searching by Block

After each assessment, NAEP questions are released by block. A block is a set of all questions asked in one timed section. **Search by Block** makes it easy to find specific timed sets of questions. First, select the subject and grade, then click **Continue** and select the block you want from the **Year/Block** column.

Search Results

1. The result of your search is a screen with a list of questions. Select the question you want to view.
2. If all questions matching your search criteria don't fit onto one screen, see more by selecting the next group.
3. Click the box in the **In Folder** column for each question you want to add to the **Print Folder**. (See the Printing section for more information about this feature.)

In the **Grade** column, you will see that some of the questions have grades shown as 4 (8), 8 (12), 4 (8, 12), 12 (8), etc. This means that the question was administered at more than one grade. You will be examining the performance of students in the grade listed first, but you can find the same question in the other grade(s), along with student performance, and for constructed-response questions, sample student responses for that grade.

Information on Each Question

There are six clickable tabs that provide scoring and performance information for each question. The tabs are described below and on the next page.

Question Tab

1. When you click any **Description** on the **Search Results** screen (see above), the actual question is displayed.
2. For another question, return to your search results list by clicking the **Previous Search Results** button.
3. You may also use the arrows to scroll through your search results list.

Quick Search

Select a subject Select a grade (default to All) (optional)

Search

Advanced Search

Within a subject, search for questions by grade, content classification, question type, difficulty, and other subject-specific variables.

Select a subject

Continue...

Subject : Geography

Grade : All

Content Area : All

Question Type : All

Cognitive Level : All

Question Difficulty : All

Search

Search by Block

Within a subject, search for a specific "block" or "booklet" of questions that were administered to students who participated in the NAEP assessment.

Select a subject Select a grade (default to All) (optional)

Continue...

To Print Folder: Empty [Add All Questions](#) | [Remove All Questions](#)

74 results returned for:

Subject: Geography [Subject Info](#) Grade: 4

1-20 | 21-40 | 41-60 | 61-74

	Subject	Grade	Description	Year/Block	No.	In Folder
1	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate country using Equator and Prime Meridian	2001-4G7	01	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Geography	4	Atlas: Use population pie charts	2001-4G7	02	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Geography	4	Atlas: Identify megalopolis on population map	2001-4G7	03	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Geography	4	Atlas: Compare countries using three maps	2001-4G7	04	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Geography	4	Atlas: Use maps to explain land use	2001-4G7	05	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate ice caps and glaciers on world map	2001-4G7	06	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate continents in tropics	2001-4G7	07	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate place using latitude and longitude	2001-4G7	08	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate a South American capital	2001-4G7	09	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Geography	4	Atlas: Use U.S. growing season map	2001-4G7	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Geography	4	Atlas: Identify bordering countries on Asia map	2001-4G7	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate landlocked country on Asia map	2001-4G7	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Geography	4	Atlas: Locate place using irrigation map	2001-4G7	13	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Geography	4	Atlas: Identify elevation of region	2001-4G7	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Geography	4 (8)	Mark X on Your State/District	2001-4G8	01	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Geography	4 (8)	Identify Lake Superior	2001-4G8	02	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Geography	4 (8)	Identify the Mississippi River	2001-4G8	03	<input type="checkbox"/>

New Search Previous Search Results **2** **3** Question 24 of 74 [Tool Help](#)

To Print Folder: Empty [Add Question](#)

Subject: Geography [Subject Info](#) **4** Grade: 4 Block: 2001-4G8 No.: 10

Description: Landforms

Question Performance Data Content Classification Scoring Guide/Key Student Responses More Data

[Printable Version](#)

10. Florida is an example of

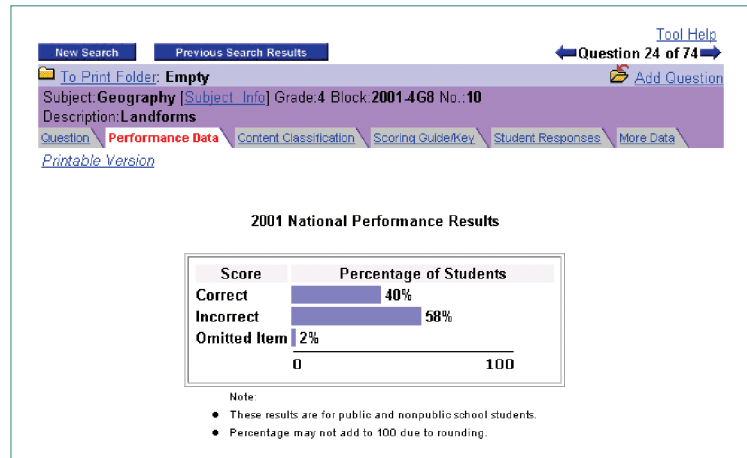
A) an isthmus
B) an island
C) a peninsula
D) a plateau

1

- Click **Subject Info** to find useful information about the latest assessment in the subject you are exploring, including details about the framework for the assessment, assessment procedures, distribution of the questions by type, scoring information, and information about how the results are reported.

Performance Data Tab

The **Performance Data** tab shows information about how students performed on the question.



Content Classification Tab

The **Content Classification** tab shows the area of knowledge that the question is assessing.

Content Area

Space and Place

Example: Where is New York City? Why is it there? What are its most notable features? How has its physical location contributed to its population growth and density?

Spatial understanding is measured by questions such as these. It develops as students learn the context of place geography--where a specific place (or a particular thing) is located in the community, nation, and the world. Knowing the location of a place is practical information, and thinking about why it is there and what it is like helps students develop an understanding of a place and the issues that affect

Scoring Guide/Key Tab

The **Scoring Guide/Key** tab displays the correct answer or key for multiple-choice questions. For questions that ask students to write a response, the scoring guide describes the range of scores and criteria used to judge the response.

Key

10. Florida is an example of

A) an isthmus
B) an island
C) a peninsula
D) a plateau

Student Response Tab

The **Student Response** tab displays sample student responses at each score level for questions that ask students to write a response.

Complete - Student Response

17. Read the passage above. What does Chief Seattle believe about owning land?

That it is special and it doesn't really belong to him.

Many other people in the United States hold views on owning land different from those of Chief Seattle. What are these views?

If you own land it's yours and you can do whatever you want to it.

17. Read the passage above. What does Chief Seattle believe about owning land?

Chief Seattle thinks land cannot be owned.

Many other people in the United States hold views on owning land different from those of Chief Seattle. What are these views?

Many people think land can be owned.

Score's Commentary

Both "Complete" responses offer an acceptable summary of Chief Seattle's view on land ownership and a contrary view.

[Close Window](#)

More Data Tab

The **More Data** tab shows additional data for each question, including how groups of students (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, and others) performed on the question.

Tool Help provides access to the tutorial from any screen.

Overall Performance

	Inappropriate		Partial		Complete		Avg. Score (S.E.)
	Avg. N Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	Avg. Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	Avg. Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	
-- TOTAL --	1893	207 1.4	79% 1.1	232 2.5	13% 1.1	249 2.9	6% 0.6

ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL

	Inappropriate		Partial		Complete		Avg. Score (S.E.)
	Avg. N Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	Avg. Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	Avg. Score (S.E.)	Row Pct. (S.E.)	
Advanced	380	252 0.9	61% 4.1	254 1.9	23% 3.3	14% 2.8	2.8
Proficient	954	214 0.8	82% 1.4	219 1.7	13% 1.4	3% 0.9	0.9
Basic	629	162 1.4	92% 1.4	4% 1.0	0% 0.2	0.2	0.2

Printing

The **Print Folder** option lets you add, customize, and print a group of questions that you select.

- Add questions to the **Print Folder**.
- Customize your print options in the **Print Folder**.
- Print your questions.

Adding Questions to the Print Folder

To add to the **Print Folder** from an individual question screen,

1. Click **Add Question**.

To add to the **Print Folder** from the **Search Results** screen,

2. Click the box in the **In Folder** column for each question you want to print or click **Add All Questions** to add all questions from the search results list; and
3. Click **To Print Folder** to view the folder's contents and to use the options.

Customizing Your Print Options in the Print Folder

1. Select the options you want from the **Print Options** check boxes.
2. Use the **Edit Options** buttons to change the question order, to view a question, or to delete or restore a question. Click **Save**.
3. Click the **Assemble Document** button to print from your browser. You can also copy and paste your contents into any of the newer word processing applications. See **Printing Your Questions** next.

Printing Your Questions

Printing from your browser is quick, but you will not be able to control page breaks, and you will have headers and footers from your browser. To have better control over what you print, copy the **Print Folder** contents into any of the newer, HTML-aware word processors (e.g., Microsoft Word). For instance, when the same stimulus serves for several questions, the stimulus will print out for each question you have in your assembled collection, so you might want to delete it for all but the first question. If the stimulus and the question are separated by a page break, copy the question into a word processor and eliminate the break.

Follow these steps:

1. After clicking **Assemble Document**, go to the **Edit** menu in your browser and choose **Select All**.
2. From **Edit**, select **Copy**.
3. Open your word processor and select **Paste** from its **Edit** menu.

Save your new file and edit it as needed. Note that it is in table format with images inserted, so you will edit as you would a table.

Additional Help

1. For more help with features on the NAEP website, click **HELP** in the banner.
2. For additional help, write to us via **CONTACT US**, or e-mail Sherran.Osborne@ed.gov.

